

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to recite the subject matter of claim 7, and claim 7 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 7 contains allowable subject matter. However, for at least the reasons discussed below, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

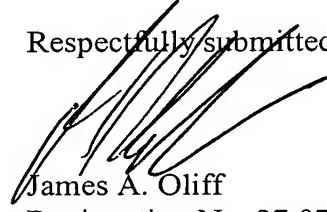
Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nishijima (U.S. Patent No. 4,681,423) in view of Suehiro (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0174355). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, independent claim 1, from which claims 3-6, 8 and 9 depend, is amended to recite the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Therefore, the rejection is moot. Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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